

What is Claimed:

1. A system for a mobile platform including an attachment point for a store, a data management system for communicating data amongst a plurality of other mobile platform systems and an operator and including a docking station, the platform including a data link  
5 operatively associated with the attachment point to allow the store and at least one of the platform systems to communicate, the system comprising:

a circuit adapted to dock to the docking station and including:

an input for accepting commands from the operator,

10 a first data port for sending commands to at least one of the data link and the store based on the commands; and

a second data port for accepting imaging from the store.

2. The system according to Claim 1, further comprising a video digitizer associated  
15 with the circuit to communicate with the second data port and to digitize the imaging.

3. The system according to Claim 1, further comprising a video digitizer adapted to be interposed between the data link and the second data port to digitize the imaging from the store and to forward the digitized imaging to the second data port.

20 4. The system according to Claim 3, further comprising an IEEE-1394 compatible cable adapted to connect the digitizer and the second data port.

5. The system according to Claim 1, further comprising a memory for storing a mission-planning program to be executed by the circuit.

5 6. The system according to Claim 1, further comprising a data entry device adapted to communicate with the circuit via the input.

7. The system according to Claim 6, further comprising an RS-232 compatible cable adapted to connect the data entry device and the input.

10 8. The system according to Claim 6, further comprising a joystick associated with the device.

9. The system according to Claim 1, wherein the circuit is adapted to forward the  
15 imaging to the data management system display.

10. The system according to Claim 1, wherein the circuit is adapted to be carried onboard the mobile platform.

20 11. The system according to Claim 1, further comprising at least one of a firmware containing the circuit and a personal computer containing the circuit.

12. The system according to Claim 1, wherein the imaging is one of at least infrared and visible electromagnetic radiation.

13. A computer for use on a mobile platform including an attachment point for a store, a data management system for communicating data amongst a plurality of mobile platform systems and an operator and including a docking station, the mobile platform including a data link operatively associated with the attachment point to allow the store and at least one of the mobile platform systems to communicate, the computer comprising:

a docking port to dock to the docking station;

an input for accepting commands from the operator;

a data port for sending commands to at least one of the data link and the store based on the inputs; and

an image port for accepting imaging from the store.

14. The computer according to Claim 13, further comprising a video digitizer to communicate with the image port and to digitize the imaging.

15. The computer according to Claim 13, further comprising an external video digitizer adapted to be interposed between the data link and the image port to digitize the imaging from the store and to forward the digitized imaging to the image port.

16. The computer according to Claim 15, wherein the image port is IEEE-1394 compliant.

17. The computer according to Claim 13, further comprising a memory for storing a mission-planning program to be executed by the computer.

18. The computer according to Claim 13, further comprising an external data entry device adapted to communicate with the input.

19. The computer according to Claim 18, wherein the input is an RS-232 port adapted to communicate with the data entry device.

20. The computer according to Claim 18, further comprising a joystick associated with the device.

21. The computer according to Claim 13, wherein the computer is adapted to forward the imaging to the data management system.

22. The computer according to Claim 13, wherein the computer is adapted to be carried onboard the mobile platform.

23. The computer according to Claim 13, wherein the computer is a laptop computer.

24. The computer according to Claim 13, wherein the imaging is one of at least infrared and visible electromagnetic radiation.

5        25. A mobile platform comprising:  
an attachment point for a store;  
a data management system for communicating data between a plurality of mobile  
platform systems and an operator, the data management system including a docking station;  
a data link operatively associated with the attachment point to allow the store and at least  
10 one of the mobile platform systems to communicate, and  
a circuit adapted to dock to the docking station and including:  
an input for accepting commands from the,  
a first data port for sending commands to at least one of the data link and the store  
based on the inputs; and  
15 a second data port for accepting imaging from the store.

26. The mobile platform according to Claim 25 wherein the mobile platform is an aircraft.

20        27. The mobile platform according to Claim 26, wherein the aircraft is a P-3.

28. The mobile platform according to Claim 25, further comprising an AN/AWW-13 pod including the data link.

29. The mobile platform according to Claim 22, wherein the store is a SLAM-ER  
5 weapon.

30. A method of preparing a mobile platform to accept a store, the mobile platform including an attachment point for a store, a data management system for communicating data amongst a plurality of mobile platform systems and an operator, the data management system  
10 including a docking station, and a data link operatively associated with the attachment point to allow the store and at least one of the mobile platform systems to communicate, the method comprising:

configuring a circuit to accept operator inputs, the circuit adapted to dock to the docking station;

15 configuring the circuit to send commands to at least one of the data link and the store based on the inputs; and

configuring the circuit to accept imaging from the store.

31. The method according to Claim 30, further comprising configuring the data  
20 management system to accept the imaging from the circuit.

32. The method according to Claim 31, further comprising configuring the data management system to display the imaging.

33. The method according to Claim 30, further comprising docking the circuit to the  
5 docking station.

34. The method according to Claim 30, further comprising configuring a video digitizer to digitize the imaging.

10 35. The method according to Claim 30, further comprising configuring the circuit to execute mission-planning program.

36. The method according to Claim 30, further comprising configuring the circuit to communicate with an external data entry device.

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37. The method according to Claim 30, further comprising carrying the circuit onboard the mobile platform.